

AREA: Cathedral Hill

MAGI NO.: 0419895740

Address: 126-128 W. Franklin Street

Current Name: Young Women's Christian Association -
Central Area

Block: 580 Lot: 5-6 Lot size: 70 ft. x 141 ft.

Height: 6 Materials: Brick and stone

Condition: Good Owner: YWCA

Use: Institutional Accessible: Yes, restricted

Designation: Liber/Folio: SCL 2977/360



Historic Name: YWCA

Date: 1915-16

Architect/Builder: Joseph E. Sperry, arch.

Style (if appropriate): Classical Revival

Description: The Franklin Street elevation has seven bays on the first floor and eight bays on the upper floors. The arched stone entrance projects slightly from the wall plane. Plain unfluted columns with weathered Corinthian capitals flank modern glass doors. The carved moldings outlining the arch are also severely weathered. Two courses of brick with Greek cross springstones and keystones outline the arch. In the tympanum is a carved medallion with a Greek cross. The raised basement windows and the first floor windows have elongated gauged flat arches. These two floors form the base of the building, separated from the upper stories by a string course of fret molding punctuated by shallow stone balconies below the six center bays of the second floor. The balconies are fluted and centered by Greek cross medallions. Other windows have blind arches with floral tympana. The Park Avenue facade has 16 bays and the same treatment as the main elevation less the door entrance. A cornerstone at the southwest corner reads: "YWCA 1883-1913".

Significance:

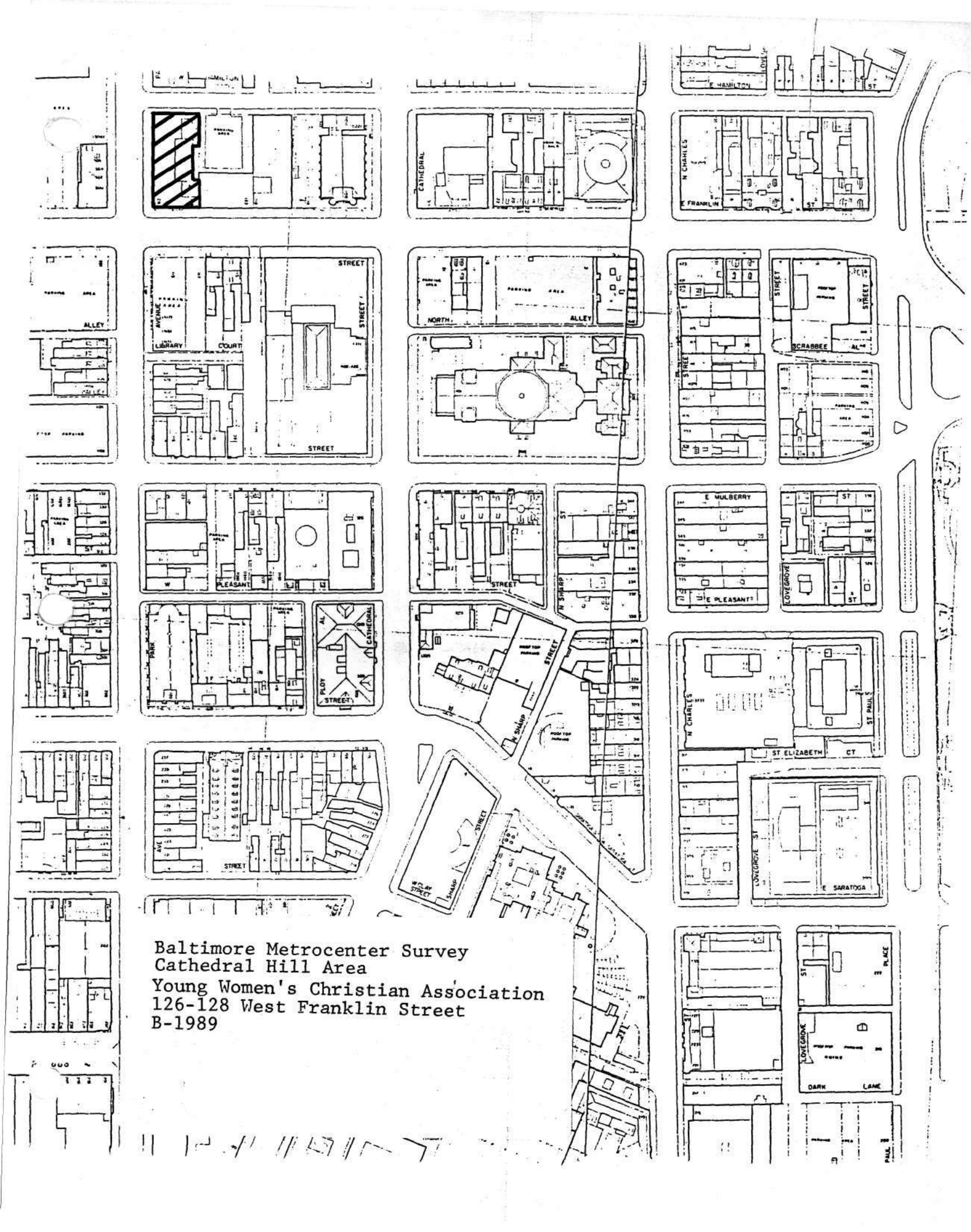
Area: architecture

Level: local

The YWCA Building is one of several institutional buildings in the Cathedral Hill area which, by their common purpose and comparatively monumental size, give a distinct character to the area. They are linked by rows of commercial blocks and residential buildings ranging in date from the mid-19th to the mid-20th century. The YWCA is at the western edge of the area, providing an emphatic landmark by its multi-levels and long elevations.

Sources: DR 3-20-15

Surveyor and Date: Janet Davis, April 1985



Baltimore Metrocenter Survey
Cathedral Hill Area
Young Women's Christian Association
126-128 West Franklin Street
B-1989



YWCA Central Area Building B-1989
126-128 West Franklin Street
Cathedral Hill - Metrocenter Survey
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Photo: Janet Davis
Date: August 1984
Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust
Southwest corner view

B. -1989

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MAGI #0419895725

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: YWCA Building				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: 126-28 West Franklin Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore				
STATE Maryland		COUNTY:		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <u>recreational</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: YWCA Association, Inc.				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Records Office, Room 601, Baltimore City Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER: Fayette and Calvert Streets				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore		STATE Maryland 21202		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): SCL 2977-360				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey				
DATE OF SURVEY: 1975 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Commission for Hist. and Arch. Pres.				
STREET AND NUMBER: 26 S. Calvert Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore		STATE: Maryland 21202		

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This six story brick building was constructed to house the YWCA in about 1915. It is a U-shaped, shallowly detailed monolith with an eight bay front and sixteen bay side. Deep, fan-shaped, flat-arched brick lintels are above each basement window, each of which is fitted with iron bars. The main entrance on Franklin Street is sheathed with marble, engaged double columns with lotus capitals. A semicircular tympanum is decorated with a medallion carved with a Greek cross and the Letters "YWCA" in relief in the angles of the cross. The first floor windows are double hung with six-over-six lights, stone sills, and the same fanning lintels as the basement windows.

On the exterior, the second level has the appearance of a piano nobile. Double hung windows with eight-over-eight lights have stone tympani carved with medallions and swags set below semicircular brick arches. The windows are set behind low, shallowly projecting stone balconies with carved Greek cross ornamentation, which rest on short brackets. The balconies are set onto the chamfered edge of the projecting lower floor walls.

Four stories fenestrated with double hung with six-over-six lights rise above the "piano nobile". All have flat-arched brick lintels with white stone keystones. All sills are of stone, except on the top floor, where a string course of white stone skirts the lower edge of the windows. A broader course of stone runs above the lintels of the windows of the top floor, below a brick parapet. Carved, inset stone panels of swags and lamps at the first floor level provide the only other decorative motif.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

c. 1915

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Refer to 505 Park Avenue

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

69'4"x141'5½"

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Bill Pencek, Joseph Potts, Planning Assistants

ORGANIZATION

Commission for Hist. and Arch. Pres.

DATE

11/6/75

STREET AND NUMBER:

26 S. Calvert Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland

21202

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

REVISIONS

DATE 11/10/89 BY PL 0003H 0008A

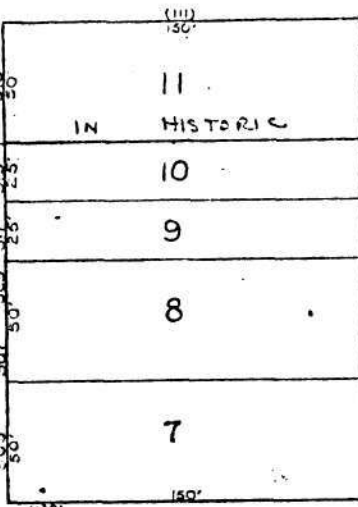
B-1989

532

W. CENTRE

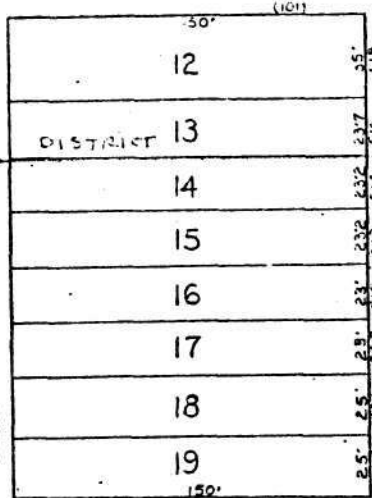
ST.

AVE.



ALLEY

PLOY



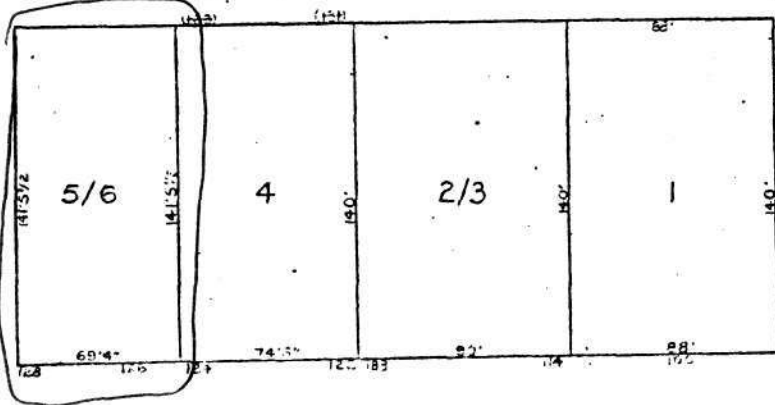
ST.

549

W. HAMILTON

ST.

PARK



CATHEDRAL

551

W. FRANKLIN

ST.

564

CITY OF BALTIMORE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

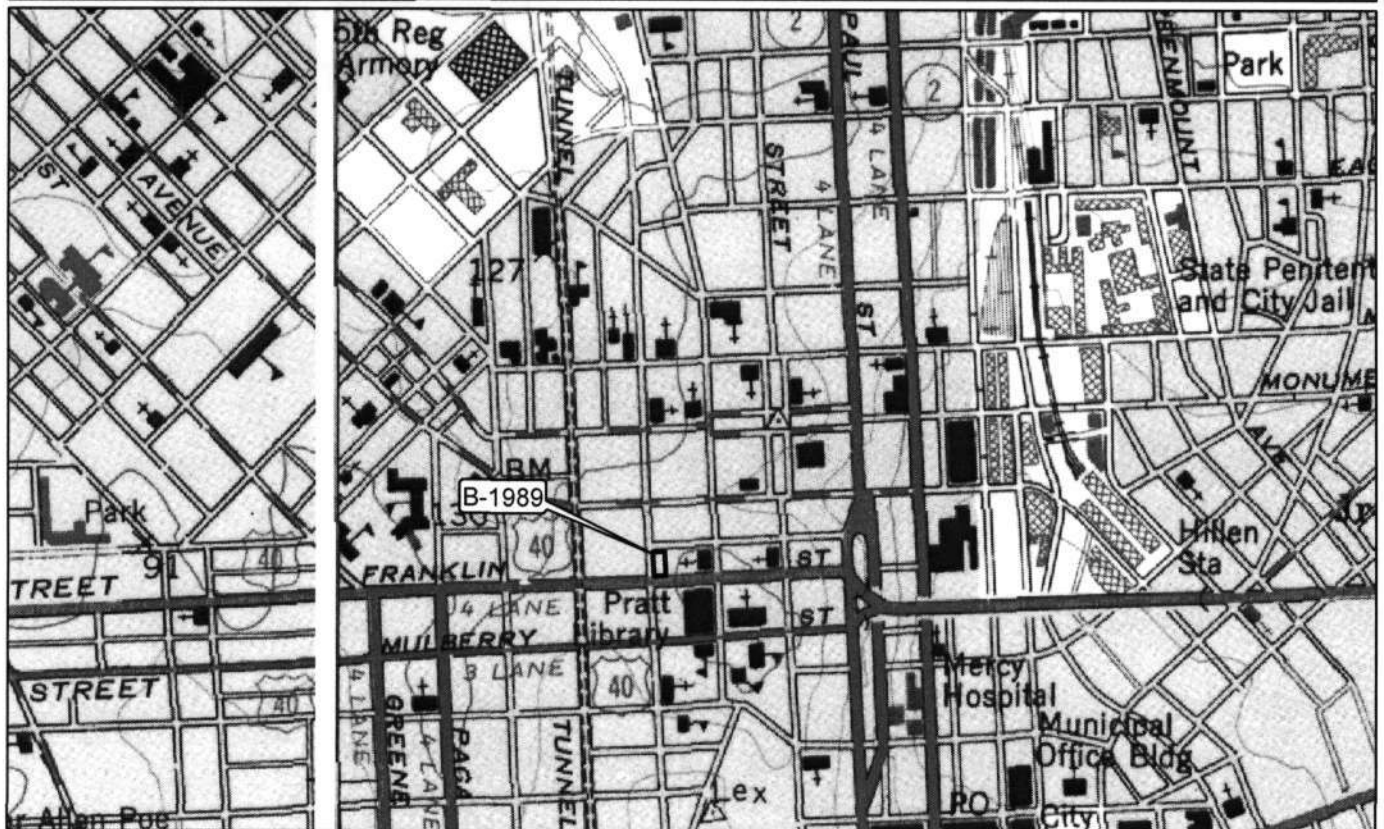
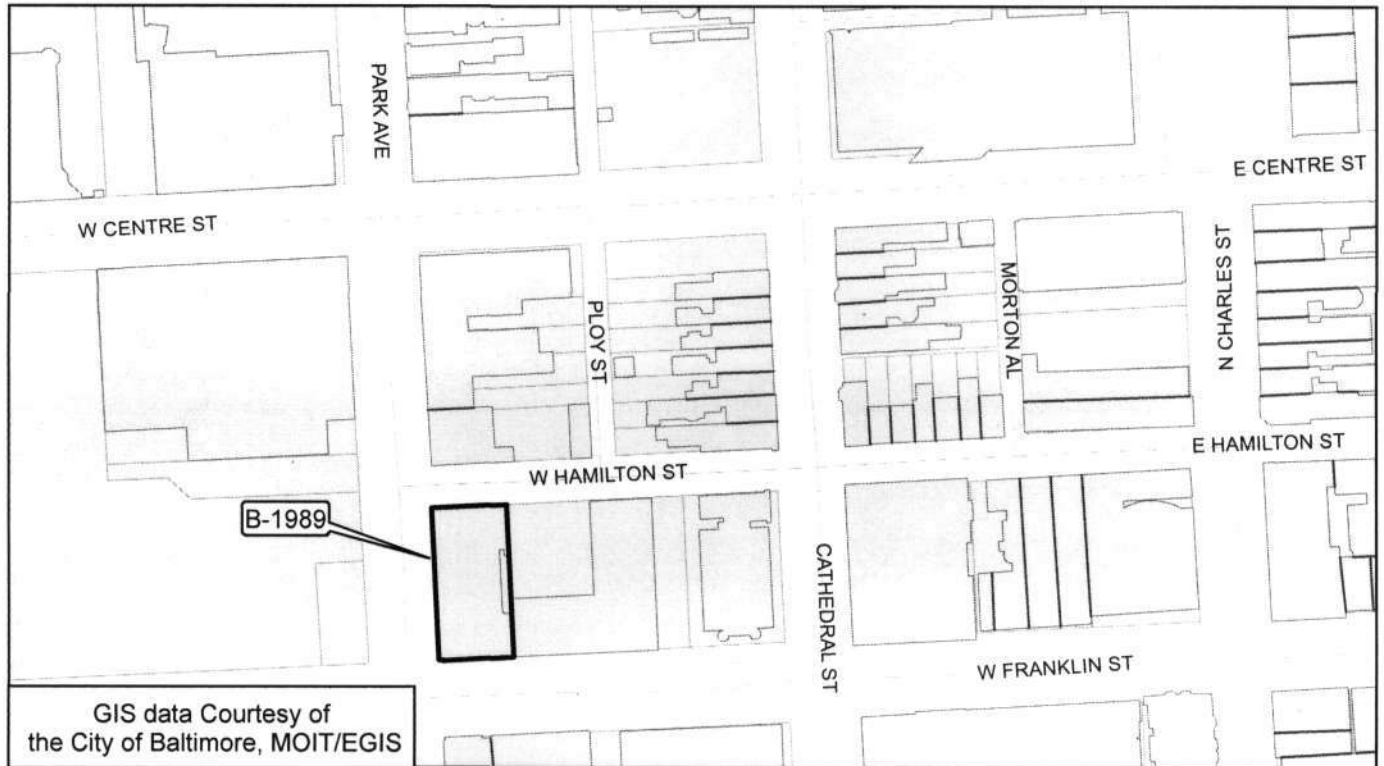
NOTICE

THIS IS A PUBLIC NOTICE THAT THE
CITY OF BALTIMORE HAS DECIDED TO
REDEVELOP THE HISTORIC DISTRICT
IN THE CITY OF BALTIMORE.

WARD 11, SECTION 10
BLOCK 550

DATE 11/10/89 BY PL 0003H 0008A

B-1989
 YWCA Building
 126-128 W. Franklin Street
 Block 0550, Lot 005
 Baltimore City
 Baltimore East Quad.





126-128 W. Franklin

B-1989

BKS50
Sept. 1975
Web
C. B. Thompson